

THE BELL RINGER



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OCTOBER 31, 1994

Mrs. Tommy Owen Reflects on Her MBA Life

by Dan McGugin

The Bell Ringer presents this second installment of a two-part series, an interview with Mrs. Tommy Owen, the first honorary chairwoman of the Spaghetti Supper.

Daniel McGugin: When did you first come to MBA?

Mrs. Tommy Owen: We first came to MBA in August of 1953. There were three buildings on the campus, the Ball building, the science building, and what was the old gym, which is Wallace Hall now. They had three rows of bleachers, and if you sat on the front row of the bleachers, your feet were on the playing field. It was a beautiful campus back then, of course. It's hard to believe how it's grown and changed.... The gym facilities, naturally, have changed. We played all of our early games on Andrews Field, the practice field now. We have, of course, all the new buildings. It's unbelievable. The campus was beautiful with just three buildings on it, but it's just fantastic now.

McGugin: Where were you before MBA?

Owen: Oh, we were in Amory, Mississippi. It was a town about the size of a nickel and everybody knew everybody else. We were there for a couple of years before we came to Nashville.

McGugin:

What were your first impressions when you came? Anything that stood out?

Owen: Well, of course, Tommy had gone to Vanderbilt, so coming to Nashville was almost like coming home to him. MBA was a top school, even at that time. Of course, the school has grown, the student body has grown; but it was a very friendly, very warm, very welcoming atmosphere. It's just been home to us for many years.

McGugin: What was life like as wife of the most successful MBA football coach in his-

tory? Not only MBA, in the Nashville area.

Owen: Well, Tommy was an

shouting. He was the same way at home; he was just a very quiet, caring individual,

back to school.

McGugin: Did he have any superstitions, or special clothes?

Owen: No, I don't think he had any superstitions. I had a superstition that I would never wear the color of the opposing team. That was one superstition that I just couldn't bring myself to ever put on the colors of the opposing team. A lot of our boys through the years would have some strange superstitions.

McGugin: What were they?

Owen: Well, when we were still in the old gym, one of the teams decided...they came in and parked and got taped and went out to play; and we won our game, our first game. And after that, they would park and tape in exactly the same order as they had done the first day, which caused a little hair pulling once in a while. There would be frayed tempers because someone would be late, and the other guys wouldn't get their ankles taped. And if someone parked out of sequence, they would make the managers go out and rearrange

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Mrs. Tommy Owen at Homecoming. To her left is Mrs. Gordon and to her right is Mrs. McGugin. Left holding the bag is Mr. Gioia.

awfully easy person to live with. He was, as everyone in school knew, very quiet. He did not do a whole lot of

for a little bit. He would have his pre-game meal about 3:30 or so, and then he would change into his gear and go

AP Scholars Honored

by Lee Hampton

Even though only 12 percent of the 459,000 students who take AP exams are named AP Scholars by the college board, 57 percent of the class of 1994 received this recognition. Andy Barrett, Jason Bennett, James Bowen, Keith Claverie, Ben Corbett, Dan Ferguson, Jonathan Glickstein, Ben Griffin, Mark Hardison, Taylor Harris, Michael Haslam, Barret Rose, Bradley Sloan, Kevin Stoll, Bruce Tarkington, and Geoff Zimmerman were named AP Scholars of Distinction. AP Scholars of Distinction had to score an average grade of 3.5 on at least five AP exams, with no score below a 3. John Roe, Sean Sherrod, and Stephen Ward were awarded the title of AP scholar with Honor. These students had to

earn an average grade of 3.25 on at least four AP exams, without scoring below a 3. In addition, Joe Braden, Ryan Bruckhardt, Derrick Buckspan, George Frazier, Mark Garton, Hugh Gaston, Robert Hartman, William Hickerson, Anton Hie, Howard Kong, Shawn Lehman, Brooks Martin, Loren Nash, Adam Scott, Brandon Shea, J.T. Steele, Charlie Thombs, and Robert West were named AP Scholars. AP Scholars received an average grade of at least 3 on on at least 3 AP exams, with no grades less than a 3. Mr. Poston remarked, "This reflects well on MBA. This is probably typical of the classes every year. These students are the cream of the crop."

13 MBA Students Named Semifinalists

by Lee Hampton

This year, seniors David Brooks, Ted Callahan, Brian Camp, Haynes Gentry, Martin Gilmore, Eric Himmelfarb, Nathan Lujan, Charles Malone, Freddie O'Connell, Jake Ossoff, Clay Risen, Mark Roden, and Stuart Smartt were named National Merit Semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Mr. Poston said that this year we had "one of the largest groups of Semifinalists in Nashville." Only two other area schools had as many Semifinalists. Over one million students who take the PSAT each year are eligible to become Semifinalists, but only 15,000 students actually receive this honor. Students may become Semifinalists if they took the PSAT in their second to last year of school and had exceptionally

high scores on the test. Semifinalists can become Finalists if they have consistently high grades, are endorsed by their high school principals, provide biographical information to the NMSC, and perform well on an SAT reasoning test. Finalists may compete for 6,700 scholarships worth about \$2000 apiece. Also, Buck Buchanan, Bradley Coburn, John Farringer, Michael Frey, Tom Hall, Micah Horgan Markman, Praveen Kambam, Ted Morrissey, Kenneth Pruitt, Bill Siesser, Paul Thompson, Robert Welhoelter, Bill Wilson, and Zach Skipper were named Commended students, a title which approximately 35,000 students receive. Unfortunately, some commended students missed the Semifi-

nalist cut off score by only one point. This year's results reversed a trend of declining numbers of MBA Semifinalists. Eight students became Semifinalists in 1991, five students in 1992, and three students in 1993. However, Taylor Harris, who graduated in 1994, was named a National Merit Scholar. Hopefully, several of this year's Semifinalists will also attain this recognition.

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News and Opinions

Reflections...

the cars so they were in perfect sequence. There was one boy who wouldn't shave on game day. So we've had a lot of quirks that the kids have come up with.

McGugin: I know the grounds have changed, like the buildings, but have the football facilities changed?

Owen: Well, I'll always have a warm spot in my heart for Andrews Field. No disregard for Tommy Owen Field, but Andrews Field was our home field and facility for years... you were closer to the field and it was just very intimate. I guess that I just sat on it so many times, it would kind of seem like a real home field. I had to get accustomed to the larger stadium. I felt like I was separated from the game a little bit more than I had been. Of course, in terms of the facilities, the physical facilities themselves, there's just no comparison. The old one, as I said, was pretty cramped and pretty basic. It had a little balcony that fit over the top. Our arch rival was West at that time and when we had a real big crowd you could watch the balcony kind of sag a little bit. If you were sitting under it, it gave you just a tad of an anxious feeling while the game was going on.

McGugin: Is there anything else you would like to say?

Owen: No, just I think MBA is a very, very special school. For any of us I think that Homecoming time should be a little nostalgic when we see people we haven't seen in a long time, all of whom are coming back. *The Bell Ringer* would like to thank Mrs. Owen sincerely for taking the time for this interview.

Mrs. Welhoelter has been a great help in editing this issue and her efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Facts about President Clinton and His Policies

Does President Clinton represent the rise of Fascism in the United States? Is he leading us into a "bloody socialist revolution"? Probably not! Frankly, the recent tirades on President Clinton's personal, financial, and governmental actions all make us nauseous. Sure, he has made some mistakes in his Presidency, but who hasn't? Certainly, a factual analysis of his record would put to rest most of the blind attacks that he has been receiving. So let's dive in and dispel some of these myths...

1. Economics- First, the facts. The U.S. economy has, during the Clinton administration, seen the lowest interest rates in recent history, a dramatic reversal of the budget deficit, a regaining of America's world leadership in economic competitiveness, and most recently the lowest unemployment rate in four years (in fact, most financial analysts agree that if the economy were in any better shape, inflation would hit the ceiling). In addition, these achievements are part of

by Joey Martinez and Clay Risen Clinton's National Service Act and Stimulus Package. Granted, Clinton did not save the economy by himself, but it seems obvious that these programs have facilitated this growth (specifically, the Stimulus Package would have had more effect had it not been delayed by Congress). Contrast this with the trite and disproven claims of the Republicans that Clinton is killing the economy with taxes. The last time Americans listened to Republican economic policy, the U.S. found itself in a recession in which most of the social programs were cut.

2. Health care- Whether the Clinton plan is right or wrong, seventy-five percent of America agrees that we need a national health care system. Comparisons to other nations are invalid because of demographic and consumption patterns. America is unique in its consumption of health care; because of this fact, costs will skyrocket unless some level of control is implemented. But economics is only a part of the story, as *Black Enterprise* noted in

1993. The magazine stated that "Sixty-thousand people die every year due to the lack of health care in this country." In light of this tragedy, anything less than a comprehensive health insurance system from the government would be a serious violation of its duty to its citizens.

3. Education- Though few will admit it, President Clinton has been one of the pioneers of education in the twentieth century. We should never dismiss the fact that he approved a far-reaching grant program for college students in need, totaling in excess of five-million dollars nationwide. Additionally, his national service program will enable thousands of young Americans to get through college and return the favor to their nation.

4. Crime- While some may argue that the Crime Bill is not enough, no one can deny that it provides urgent relief to our nation's law enforcement program. It provides funding for tens of thousands of additional police officers, as well as stricter pen-

alties for crimes. Granted, the Crime Bill will not eradicate violence in America, but it is a strong first step. And on a side note, it is crucial in a debate over policy making, especially one such as gun control, that we ignore unsupported claims like "Bill Clinton's proposed ban on assault rifles is going to destroy my right to bear arms." Even though this ban may seem to inhibit your rights to bear assault weapons, the truth is that it is really for the good of the nation as a whole.

And lest we forget, Bill Clinton has had many successes that are not attacked because they are, well, undeniably successful. For instance, the NAFTA trade agreement is already producing countless thousands of employment opportunities for Americans. He has also put to rest claims that he is a foreign policy "weakling" by taking strong but peaceful international positions against dictatorships in Haiti and Iraq.

Finally, a disclaimer: while we both profess to be Liberals, this is not a liberal article, per se. It is fact. But this is not to bely the importance of what we have said in this article. It is crucial, as elections roll around, that the American public take a realistic look at the state of the nation.

Industry at Odds with Technology

by Chris Kuhn

Today, the automotive industry is racing to see who can produce the most fuel-efficient cars and thereby gain the consumer's dollars. With today's rising fuel prices and evaporating air quality, the public demands a reasonable alternative to the old gas-guzzlers that pollute our roads. While these "customer-pleasing" cars will soon be ready for display at your local auto-dealership, they are not necessarily the most efficient option available.

NASA has recently developed a new technique for fueling their space shuttles. Instead of devoting a majority of the shuttle's storage capacity to gasoline as is presently done, the shuttles will one day be able to retrieve fuel while in flight by capturing space-boulders (similar to the way astronauts presently haul in satellites). These huge rocks are over ninety-percent ice and can be melted into water that serves as fuel. This impressive technology will put an

end to the cramped quarters so common in a shuttle and may eventually help achieve NASA's goal of a long-term voyage to Mars.

However, if an advanced machine such as a space shuttle can be fueled simply by water, why then can't a simple car be? Realistically, using water to run automobiles is not only possible but also more practical than using electricity, the auto industry's future alternative. So why is this not presently a reality?

Industrial progress no longer rewards the common consumer; unfortunately, it has been halted by the use of traditional methods that reward the manufacturer. Today, electrical corporations are capable of creating light bulbs that can last over a hundred years; yet no one is willing to market them. Industries would quite simply rather make consumers purchase a light bulb every year or so than once in a lifetime. This greedy approach allows them to make a greater

profit and to maintain the company's well-being.

This Catch-22 is the same for automotive companies. Why should manufacturers create a car that runs on water when doing so would put a large dent in the powerful and wealthy oil companies? Under these impotent circumstances, there will be no progression unless the government steps in and takes control.

Washington should take steps to promote new technologies in all areas of industry, even if it means upsetting an influential company. Perhaps respected scientists should be hired to inform the government of the practical alternatives presently available. Their recommendations could then become laws (if passed), forcing corporations to phase out old techniques that benefit themselves and to introduce new technologies which would benefit the consumer and the environment.

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News

The Fantasticks: A Phenomenal Success by Ben Purser

This fall, the Civil War Chess Set (the MBA Theatre Club) produced *The Fantasticks*, continuing the MBA tradition of performing it every seven years since 1966. The plot is quite simple. Two neighboring fathers - Paul Thompson as Hucklebee and Mark Roden as Bellomy - want their children - Rob Hancock as the scientific yet suave Matt and Mary Rose Eng as the egocentric Lousia - to get married. However, the twist is that the children must not know of their fathers' devious machinations. They get the children to fall in love and then have the daughter kidnapped, or "raped" (from the latin "to seize"... Surely you know of "The Rape of the Lock?") by the dark and frightening El Galo (not pronounced like the wine). However, Matt runs in and saves his love from El Galo and his henchmen - Bill Siesser as the hilariously stage-stealing Henry and Robbie Quinn as the moribund Mortimer). Unfortunately, this lovely tableau of family unity crumbles in the harsh sunlight, and Matt goes out into the world to seek



Paul Thompson (far left) and Mark Roden (far right) converse while Jonathan Spencer (center) looks on.

his fortune. After only a few days of twirly-girlies and typsy-gypsies, the pain and suffering of the real world hits him like a Spanish slop-pot. Matt then returns home to find that Lousia has had her heart broken by El Galo (God, I hate him!) and now wants to spend eternity with Matt. All the while, the Mute (Jonathan Spencer) plays various parts-acting as props and bearing the brunt of physical abuse.

Even though there was a somewhat major setback about two-weeks before opening, the cast and crew was still able to do an excellent job with the show. The

choreography added a nice finishing touch to the entertaining lines and skilled acting; these facets caused the show to be outstanding as well as humorous. Overall the singing was good; Rob was exceptional and Mary Rose was very good. The music for all the songs was provided by Marian Ross on the piano, David Brooks on bass, Stuart Smartt on drums, and a harpist. Ian McClure provided musical direction.

The first musical in several years, the show enjoyed a record-turn-out and forecasts a silver-lined future for the Civil War Chess Set.

Race Rocks Homecoming Dance

by Ted Callahan

This year's Homecoming dance was as successful as the record-breaking Spaghetti Supper. *Race*, composed of current MBA students Stuart Smartt and Ted Callahan, played for the dance. Regrouping from several months' hiatus, the band had to bring in a session bassist, Bill Capshaw, to

potpourri of moods and emotions with spectacular light work. From pulsating flashes of green and blue in "Are You Gonna Go My Way" to the very lone red spot on "Indifference," the lights played an integral role.

The band kicked off the show with a fiery rendition of *Stone Temple*



Couples sway to the melodic "Indifference"

cover the bottom end. Two former students, singer Burton Verner and guitarist Rishi Malhotra, completed the group.

Maximizing the spectacle while minimizing the costs, the dance was staged in the theatre. Terence Cheng created a



Pilots' "Vaseline" and then chartered through the seventies backwaters with such hits as "Good Times Bad Times" and "Sweet Home Alabama."

The crowd really got into the music with "Wild Thing." Following up that



Please see *Race* Page 6

STOP

WHAT YOU ARE DOING
AND WRITE THIS DOWN

I
WILL
BE
AT
AP DAY
NOV. 5,
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Opinions

Why Will Is Wrong by Paul Thompson

I believe in "individual freedom, representative government, progress and reform, generosity and tolerance, and protection of civil liberties." According to Webster's Dictionary, I am a liberal. Liberalism is almost as popular at MBA as socialism was during the McCarthy era. In the September 23rd issue of *The Bell Ringer*, Will O'Hare, a self-avowed "conservative" reading directly from Rush Limbaugh's playbook, attacks liberalism as an ideology that can lead only to "fields of blood." Will's implication that Clinton is a socialist "Big Brother," trying to "raise taxes on the hardworking people to show that he cares," is completely ludicrous. Clinton hasn't raised taxes on the hardworking people. Finally, he asserts that "the problem I have with the Clinton Administration and the liberal ideology in general is the notion that the government should provide everything for the people." Liberals believe that

the government should protect individuals, not provide for them. Will fails to offer any solution to the problems he cites, resorting instead to propaganda. Will is wrong and does not seem to understand the concept of liberalism. So, I have dedicated the first half of my column to educating Will O'Hare.

Listen up, Will. Liberals are by no means socialists. Socialists advocate government control over the means of production and the distribution of goods. Liberals do not. They have fought and died for freedom. From Jefferson to F.D.R., liberals have been dedicated to realizing the full potential of each individual. Liberals are zealous defenders of civil and political liberties — even Will's right to embarrass himself. Liberalism is full of optimism and egalitarianism. Liberalism has evolved socially and politically, from the nine-

teenth century *laissez-faire* policies to the New Deal and progressive movement in the twentieth century. Around the turn of the century, liberals realized that *laissez-faire* liberalism and the clout of business were going to crush the individual. Liberals recognized that the state could alleviate the suffering of the American individual — without taking over the economy or the means of production; in the New Deal, liberals instituted programs, such as Social Security, that were designed to benefit the individual and keep him from being squashed by big business and bankers. Liberals realized that action is better than reaction, a fact that Will clearly has not learned.

The problem of big business and the rich having too much control has reared its head again — this time in politics. Under each of the past three presidents, Clinton included, the special interests of the wealthiest fifteen percent of all Americans have

become the focus of the government. The middle class has lost its political clout. A majority of the Democrats and Republicans in Congress, along with the three most recent presidents, have the interests of the economic elite at heart, instead of the American people. Take the Clean Air Act — a bill passed in the 1989 Congress to strengthen government emissions standards in cars; the bill seems like a worthy effort to lower air pollution; however, corporate lobbying groups gave over a million dollars to President Bush and the Republican National Committee; when Bush was defeated, they proceeded to give over five thousand to President Clinton and the DNC. Why? Because these corporate groups wanted small exemptions from the act to be made for their companies. As a result of the lobbying, the corporations got their exceptions and the Clean Air Act became an almost useless bill. Also, in the failed debate over health care reform, lobbying

groups poured in approximately thirty million dollars just to keep a bill from even coming to a vote. Obviously, this problem cannot be blamed simply on either the Democrats or the Republicans. In my opinion, the only way to solve the lobbying crisis would be a wholesale ban on lobbyists, combined with a cap on the amount of spending allowed in campaigns for federal office. This measure may seem extreme, and might cause some unattractive communication problems, but a ban provides the impetus needed to bring government back to the people and away from the elite special interests.

Tennesseans actually have a chance to begin lobbying reform earlier than the rest of the nation. Fred Thompson, Washington lobbyist and Hollywood actor, is running for the U.S. Senate. Thompson, a Republican, is running against Jim Cooper, a Democrat. Cooper has been *Please see Why Will Page 7*

I Bit My Wookiee by Freddie O'Connell

Boy howdy, am I confused. I told myself I wouldn't write a political article, I wouldn't write a political article, I wouldn't... you get the picture, but this article looks as though it is going to be awfully political. I thought hey, I could write about a really controversial topic like: Macintosh vs. IBM, Bill Gates vs. Steve Jobs, astroturf vs. the real stuff, the Jedi vs. the Empire, Kurt Cobain vs. himself... I realized the true controversy lies in labels that are in no way associated with a brand name. I myself have been labeled in the past: a LIBERAL.

Now I was curious as to just what a liberal was, having found myself lumped into a mysterious pile of politics. So one day, I walked into the kitchen and asked my dad: "Dad, what's a LIBERAL?" And Dad said: "Son, it is a person who believes that government should step in and settle social situations, primarily through the redistribution of income." I followed up with: "What's a CONSERVATIVE?" (I had often heard this word, too,

casually tossed around by my politically conscious classmates). And Dad said: "Son, it is a person who believes: the less government, the better." I reflected and realized that the two groups were opposites. I reflected some more and realized that by this definition, I was not a LIBERAL. I checked back with Dad, to make sure these two explanations offered universally regarded definitions.

To gain further knowledge regarding the two bodies and help determine whether or not I was a LIBERAL, I decided to take an informal poll of random seniors (who, for the interests of science, shall remain anonymous). One interviewee said that CONSERVATIVES maintain a doctrine of less government, while LIBERALS like more government. I felt slightly reassured. But then I talked to another, who said that CONSERVATIVES are those who follow laws, and LIBERALS don't. I felt that

this might be erroneous data in a significant experiment, so I continued the poll. Here are the results (all will be displayed with the conservative view followed by the liberal view):

- 1) maintain the status quo vs. up for change
 - 2) elitists who express self-interest vs. egalitarian reps of the people
 - 3) people who live in the days of yore vs. people who are on the cutting edge
 - 4) self-help vs. government help
 - 5) Will O'Hare vs. Paul Thompson
 - 6) goodly people vs. flammers who chomp at the bit
- (this actually began as: "flaming... uh, I don't know. I don't have any

views).

- 7) God-fearing men vs. the stupid
 - 8) those who abide by conformity vs. those who do their own thing
 - 9) Republican vs. Democrat
 - 10) those who are afraid of change vs. those who are open-minded
 - 11) people against radical change who would establish Christian values across the country vs. people who support more rights to minorities and would change Reagan-Bush government dramatically
 - 12) one pollster ran away, screaming about not getting sucked into this argument.
- Now, you can imagine the confusion I felt. Especially when my old

American Heritage Dictionary sides with my dad on liberalism, but it says that conservatism is the maintaining of the existing order. I could no longer tell whether it was a blessing or a curse to have been called a LIBERAL. I don't think that I fit comfortably into either category (after this, though, does anyone?). What I do know is that in the future I will be much more careful sticking a label on something unless I know for sure that it's a brand name ("Why, yes, I'm a Liberal™ brand liberal!" "He sure is a Conservative™ brand conservative!").

Oh, and by the way, Macintosh kicks.



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Entertainment

Entertainment Spotlight:

Lynn Shults

Music executive Lynn Shults has been most recognized for discovery of Garth Brooks. This random event has brought massive success to all those involved. One night he decided to go to a songwriters' showcase at the Bluebird Cafe. Garth Brooks filled a vacant spot and played three songs. Shults realized that this artist was superior to any of the multi-talented artists Capitol already had on their bill. After Brooks finished his performance, Shults approached him and made a handshake agreement. The rest has been ground-breaking for both Brooks and the country music industry. This discovery has helped country music start into a more mainstream listening audience.

Shults grew up in Gallatin, Tennessee, and worked at his father's auto shop; it was in this unlikely spot that his career in music began. Coincidentally, next door to the auto shop was a record store which was owned by Randy Wood, who also owned the town radio station.

Shults started working odd jobs and eventually held a solid position at the radio station. One day he was approached by Bob McClusky who asked him to plug songs on the radio for Acuff/Rose Publishing. He then moved to Start A King records as Assistant Sales Manager and was

later offered a job at United Artists (soon to be known as Capital Records) as head of National Sales and Promotion. It was at United Artists that he built his career. He stayed at United Artists for 7 years, and then moved to RCA records the year of Waylon Jennings' *Outlaw* album. On a more depressing note, this was also the year that the RCA veteran Elvis died.

Shults returned to United Artists as Operations Director and then became head of A&R during the change from United Artists to Capitol records. In March of 1990, Mr. Shults became Director of Operations for *Billboard Magazine* in Nashville and is presently Vice President of Media for Atlantic records.

Lynn Shults has been responsible for the successes of Kenny Rodgers, Crystal Gayle, Garth Brooks, Anne Murray and many others. At *Billboard*, he reviews the current singles weekly and throughout his life he has overseen some of the most successful country hits. Lynn Shults is the most appropriate person to ask "What makes a hit?" When I asked him, he responded, "Singles are mini motion pictures or novels, that appeal to a person's innermost feelings; they either appeal to a person's innermost fantasies and how they would like things. Please see Shults Page 7

Black Sabbath Tribute Album

by Matt Reasor

****=serious back damage
 ****=heavy sweating
 ***=tingly feeling
 **=subtle grunt
 *=skank

Traditionally, when doing album reviews, I will select a few new records, and give a first impression opinion of them. This time, I'm dedicating the column to a massive collection of bone-crushing, flesh-eating, brain-liquefying, and truly brutal songs. This heaping helping of homegrown metal is *Nativity in Black*, a tribute to *Black Sabbath*. *Sabbath* is by far the most important band to come out of the Sixties besides *Motorhead*. Eleven of today's

heaviest thrashers come together to create the most powerful tribute album of the century. I feel that it is my duty as a former banger to individually critique each creation appearing on this masterpiece.

1) "After Forever," as recorded by *Biohazard*. Personally, I wouldn't call this my favorite Sabbath son; nor do I call *Biohazard* my favorite metal band. This recording loses serious points because Bioturd decided to chant "yo" repeatedly after the chorus. Don't feel discouraged when this song appears first on the album. It deserves two stars.

2) "Children of the Grave," as recorded by *White Zombie*. This is truly brutal. I haven't

If you haven't noticed it, western civilization as we know it is in rapid decline. Why, you ask? I'll tell you why. It's none other than that Fascist, goose steppin', Satan worshipin' Purple Dinosaur we all know, love, and would like to kill slowly. Now, I know what your thinking: Barney is just so cute and loveable, and he teaches my little niece/nephew how to share, love, and sing little songs.

No! Look folks, Barney isn't a side dish on the Grand Slam Breakfast of life. You can't say, "you know I'd rather have home fries, today instead of Barney, OK!" He's a powerful social force, and you people who don't believe it make me sick; and the only reason I haven't killed all of you is that I don't have the money to buy the jury. Yet right now we've got a group of 15 year olds attacking and beating Barney look-alikes in malls.

Where's the problem? Barney isn't Jesus or George Washington; it's ok to give a blow of the lead pipe to his ugly purple head on occasion. We don't need him in society. Why? Because we've got the two greatest role-models in history to raise our kids, Chewbacca and the Fonzy. Hey, they may be a little violent, and you might not want your daughter to marry them, but they'll teach American kids the three most important lessons in life: First, it's ok to beat up people who are, smaller, and/or different than

had such a rush since I jousting at the medieval festival last spring. The *Zombies* covered this song with the aggression it has always deserved. They receive a five.

3) "Paranoid," as recorded by *Megadeth*. *Megadeth* is sweet, but they kinda rip; so does this song. I've always liked both, but I've always wondered why. They are granted a three and a half.

4) "Supernaut," as recorded by 1,000 *Homo DJs*. I've never heard of this band, and I don't like the original version of the song. This receives two stars only because of the cool introduction of the song.

5) "Iron Man," as recorded by *Ozzy Osbourne* and

No More Purple Dinosaur

by T. Eddie Sisk

you; second, your hair is your most valuable asset in life; and third, automechanics or metal shop is a very respectable career option. It's better than Barney and his multicultural children's coalition, who, besides the fact they'll all be addicts or felons by 18, have had all their money spent by their parents/managers/agents/and accountants.

Barney is raising the next generation of Americans. They watch the show, they love the show, then they buy the doll, and desperately try to bring it to life like on the show. Only, to discover, "Sorry kids," Barney only loves the five special kids on T.V. enough to come to life; but if you go sacrifice a live chicken, you could be one of his special friends. So, if you're wondering why little Timmy is walking around muttering, "The doll is talking to me," and playing with the carving knives, there's your answer. I mean what ever happened to legos or go-bots? Sure, they had those very small, very sharp, and very swallowable parts, but at least kids could play with or create from them weapons of mass destruction. It's not exactly American if kids can't kill with or be killed by their toys. No toys should be sold in this country unless (A): they promote the supremacy of the consumptive American lifestyle or (B): they can cause severe personal injury if the Taiwanese instructions weren't translated properly.

Barney is the cause of all of it. Barney makes

things too easy, too politically correct, he and his future America's Most Wanted All-stars. He's destroying civilization; because of him we're getting too complacent in society. We're back to Rome and there are barbarians at the gate; but we're too lazy to put the cocoa down, turn off Tiny Toons, and get our lazy hind-quarters off the couch to do anything about it. Face it, deep down inside you all want to chain Barney and his little Todd Bridges fan club to a tree, pour gas all over them while chanting, "Burn, Barney, burn," and then create a fireball out of his non-flammable hide, big enough that the Russians think it's a nuclear first strike. Hey, maybe afterwards we can bring some marshmallows, chocolate, and graham cracker and have some s'mores around his dead, burning body. Nothing cooks a s'more like a dead, purple dinosaur.

Even if you don't agree with me or my opinion (even though you should), I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT. Free speech applies to everybody but you, and if your own opinion differs with mine, SIT ON IT. Because Mr. Cunningham isn't going to come save either your or Ralph Mouths' rump this time, Richie.

Editor's Note: Anyone who takes Mr. Sisk seriously is asked to go to the infirmary where he/she will be issued a Barney doll to talk to.

receive a four.

8) "The Wizard," as recorded by *Bullring Brummies*. All of the guys who play on this track are old enough to be my father. Although this is more fun than watching all of the old guys jam bluegrass songs down at Gruhn guitars, I wouldn't push repeat on my CD player. They receive three and a half just because they need the support for social security.

9) "Sabbath Bloody Sabbath," as recorded by Bruce Dickinson with *Godspeed*. This guy reminds me of when I went to go see Stryper in concert when I was ten years old. No Glam-Rock please, Please see Tribute Page 7

Sports

Baseball: What Could Have Been by John Lyell

It's time for the baseball play-offs, and instead of having an extra round of play-offs, there is no baseball. Owners and players could not agree on two major issues: salary cap and arbitration. The salary cap would let owners keep more money and not have to pay the players as much. As basketball and football have proven, a salary cap shortens a mediocre player's career. Take, for example, Keith DeLong, a former UT and San Francisco 49ers linebacker, or John Salley, who now is forced to be a Miami Heat reserve. Over all, the salary cap decides if the owners win more money.

The arbitration argument is over how much more money the players could get. The owners would like to change the player's eligibility

and not allow young all-stars a chance to earn more money than they were signed for, such as Jack McDowell, the pitcher and former Cy Young award winner for the Chicago White Sox. He won \$4 million in an arbitration victory and this year, he ended the season with a losing record, and was the doormat of the Chicago White Sox pitching staff. The arbitration issue decides if the players win more money.

The baseball strike has cost what could have been the best year for baseball. Matt Williams and Ken Griffey Jr. were chasing after Roger Maris' home run record of 61. Tony Gwynn was trying to become the first player since Ted Williams to hit over .400. Frank Thomas and Jeff Bagwell were also attempting to win the triple crown, which

has not been won in 27 years, and Greg Maddux could have been the first person to win three Cy Young awards in a row.

With all these records down the tubes, the players and the owners have done nothing but play hardball. The players have talked about making their own league, but the owners counter by explaining how many lawsuits and problems they could cause for the players if they try to break away. The owners have used a plan by which teams would start next year with minor league baseball players; but of course, fan support would be even less than it is now. The players, though, are still united. Cal Ripken Jr., who is less than a full season worth of games away from breaking the record for consecutive games

played, has already said that his will give up his record if the strike is not settled by opening day.

Unfortunately, the outlook of a settlement between the player's association and the owners seems bleak until after December. This baseball hazard has influenced owners and players of the National Hockey League to follow in baseball's footsteps to strike. The baseball strike gave more TV exposure to football and basketball instead of the baseball post-season. Instead of watching Matt Williams hit his 62nd home run, we heard about Nebraska and Florida vying for #1. If the baseball situation isn't resolved, Michael Jordan will become the only one in baseball that people will care about.

Race...

classic, *Race* opened the floodgates with "Brown Eyed Girl" and "Even Flow." The pace quickened and numerous slam dancers took to the air. "Play something faster," were the cries after the uptempo rocker, "One Way Out." As *Race* shook the airwaves, Kenneth, Dave, and company made shock waves. Dr. Crowell quickly descended upon the scene and prevented a melee of global scale. To appease the mood, *Race* slowed the pace with such hits as "Plush" and "All Along the Watchtower." The dance concluded with Eddie Vetter's moody lament on suicide, "Indifference." Truly, the Homecoming Dance was a great time for all involved.

Air McNair Extraordinaire The Buffaloes Stampede Into the New Year

by Rob Welhoelter and Kit Ozburn

It's the year 2010; Steve McNair, surrounded by a crowd of would-be tacklers, completes his fourth touchdown of Super Bowl XLIV, en route to his tenth straight championship for the Arizona Cardinals. He has become the best QB ever to grace the field.

Think about it: the greatest wide receiver of all time and the greatest running back of all time emerged from less reputable SWAC I-AA schools than Alcorn State. Jerry Rice caught his college balls in the friendly confines of Magnolia Stadium in Itta Bena, MS, for the Delta Devils of Mississippi Valley State. And none other than Walter Payton, known to the masses as "Sweetness," was setting records running over the likes of Prairie View A & M and Southern U. for the Jackson State Tigers.

After seven games, "Air McNair" has 2,705 yards passing, along with 28 TD's. His rushing yards total 672, with 6 TD's. He averages 386 passing yards per game and 96 rushing yards an outing, not to mention almost 5 TD's every time he touches the field. The Braves' QB even has the team on the verge of an unheard-of I-AA Liberty Bowl berth. McNair, despite being

a lock for the title of "Greatest Quarterback Ever", will not win the Heisman Trophy.

You can eliminate Terry Dean (4 interceptions vs. Auburn) and Eric Zeier (big numbers but the Dawgs just don't win) from the Heisman race. Napoleon Kaufman, facing eight Arizona State defensive linemen every snap, had a down week of 80 yards. Although one of his long runs was called back because of a penalty, he passed the 1,000 yard mark.

Ki-Jana Carter (165 yds) and Penn State defeated Ty Wheatley (144 yds) and Michigan to leap-frog Nebraska into the nation's number one ranking. Colorado's Rashaan Salaam (176 yards per game) has to be the Heisman front-runner after his 161 yards and four first half touchdowns against Oklahoma to follow his colossal 317 yard performance versus Texas. The Buffalo defense has been stiff, and they have garnered the number two spot after their fourth victory over ranked teams. We look for Boulder to be the home of the 1995 National champions.

Number three Nebraska has looked strong despite the devastating loss of Tommie Frazier. The QB

tandem of Matt Turman and Brook Berringer, coupled with Lawrence Phillips's 1,132 rushing yards, have kept the Cornhusker offense potent. Some say Auburn and undefeated coach Bowden (18-0) deserve better than spot number four; we say Auburn cheated.

Switching gears, Notre Dame is awful. Admittedly, 4-3 is a record other Golden-Domers (i.e. Vandy) envy, but they missed three field goals in a seven point loss to BYU. Lou Holtz dropped out of the top 25 for the first time in nine years because of an uncharacteristically horrendous offense. The unheralded Cougar defense had four sacks for 45 yards, a fumble recovery, an interception, and seven tackles for 21 yards in losses.

Back to the SEC. Since Florida literally threw away their number one ranking and national title hopes, Alabama (a quiet 7-0 at no. 8) is the only threat of a legitimate national champion from the SEC.

With something to prove, the Wizard of Auburn, Terry Bowden, took his Comeback Kids into the Swamp and outscored the Gators, led by Steve Spurrier whose only

other loss at home came last year to Terry's dad, Bobby. Word is, Mrs. Bowden caught the game on tape so Terry and the boys can enjoy it at home New Year's Day. Look out for the clash of the unbeaten on Nov. 19 when Auburn travels to Alabama with its "challenging" schedule (what ranked teams?). We see Alabama avenging last year's loss riding the coattails of Jay Barker, who will finish his college career losing only one game. He just wins football games!!

Alabama merely added to the debacle which has become Tennessee football. Closer inspection reveals that over the past two years the Vols are 3-5-1 against ranked teams with two wins over Georgia (great job Ray Goff!). Questionable playcalling has plagued Phil "Fire me" Fulmer.

Bragging rights will be claimed in late November when the Vols limp into Nashville to take on the new winning tradition of Wonderbilt. Whichever team shows up will come out of this ugly one. As for the rest of the SEC, no one will stop Florida from meeting Alabama in the SEC championship game. This one's a pick 'em. When

we went to press, South Carolina, Miss. St., and Georgia were the only other teams with winning records. No, Auburn does not count, thank you Pat Dye. Ole Miss (2-4) has been "snakebit by crazy plays and turnovers" in the words of Coach Joe Lee Dunn. It's a Rebel rebuilding year. Arkansas has not had a very kingly welcome into the toughest football conference in the universe. Beating only Vandy and Ole Miss, the Razorbacks have not won a conference game away from home. There's always hoop season, Hawg fans. LSU seems capable of beating anyone: 4 of 6 games have been decided by 5 points or less. The Tigers are giving the freshman Hill a shot at the QB job after Howard fed the Auburn secondary with devastating second half picks. Kentucky is on a 5 game skid with no end in sight.

For all you Vols out there, let's face it, Peyton ain't all he was cracked up to be. Vandy faithful, don't worry about a bowl game this year. Until next time, may your team never go on probation, especially when enjoying back to back seasons without a loss, but with nothing to show.

Sports and Entertainment

The Comprehensive Guide to Avoiding Food Poisoning in Nashville

by: Jack Trout

After the ever-so-positive response to my first article, I have returned once again to enlighten the MBA community. This month I reviewed a necessity of life - food. Being fully reimbursed for my expenses by *The Bell Ringer*, of course, I reviewed five restaurants on a scale of one to ten. I have ranked them from best to worst, so without further ado:

1. International Thai Market and Restaurant - Belmont Blvd. No MSG, I kid you not. Actually, MSG or no MSG, the International Market had great food, specifically the wontons and beef sticks, as well as a wide variety of Thai dishes. However, please note a few words to the wise: first, avoid any sort of meat you can't identify; second, if you find a leash or flea-and-tick collar in one of the dishes, try not to dwell on it too much. I give the International Market a ten.5.

2. Faison's - "Omgod, this place is soooooo trendy." I must admit, I felt like a sissy

going to a restaurant with a fountain in the middle of it; but I put my John Wayne-like sense of masculinity aside, and went to Faison's. I was horrified when I discovered that they served quiche; but, putting aside my prejudices against such Communist foods, I found that their menu had great variety, and that the dishes are excellent. Just one word of advice: when eating at Faison's, don't give out your address or phone number. Although it loses one point for being against everything I stand for, I give Faison's a nine.

3. Las Palmas - Are you a "gringo"? If so, Las Palmas will probably be the most authentic Mexican meal you will ever eat. Located on Charlotte Pike, I had to ride there in Patrick King's '78 Apollo with new chrome and hydraulics. All the dishes are excellent; however, heed my warning: beware of the revenge of Montezuma. I give Las Palmas an eight.

4. Denny's - Hey, guess what? Denny's is just a Shoney's

full of morons. When I ate at Denny's, my waiter recommended the world famous ninety-nine-cent taco platter, so I ordered it. A few minutes later, I was informed that they had run out of "taco meat." What is "taco meat," anyway? I have my suspicions; but I'm just saying, don't be surprised if you find a hoof or antler in the taco platter. I give Denny's a two.

5. Target restaurant - Chez Target, Target Cafe. No matter what you call it, it's not French cuisine. In fact, the only thing edible is the giant pretzel. Don't get the hot dog! I repeat, Don't get the hot dog! I also must mention that the clientele aren't so great either. Let's face it, people who eat meals at Target are probably freaks and should be locked up by the state. Even though it's the most pitiful place on Earth, I graciously grant the Target restaurant a one, because of the ever-so-cool Target employee uniforms.

Shults. . .

to be, or what is actually happening to them. There's not one thing, but there are several different factors that go into what a hit song really is. It's that song and melody or the groove, the musical hooks, the lyrical hooks, and the storyline hooks that people hear and go "yeh! I like that!" because they relate to it in whatever way. It's not one thing other than a hit is something that brings a lot of pleasure to people."

Why Will. . .

an active leader in Congress, sponsoring bills on the issues of health, literacy, and communications; Thompson has been an actor. Driving around in a work shirt and an old red pickup truck in the rural parts of Tennessee, he tries to trick voters into believing he is not a lobbyist. Oliver North has been conducting a similar campaign in Virginia. Deceitful conservatives like Thompson and North pose a serious threat to good government in the United States.

Tribute. . .

the world is better off without leather pants and guys who wear make-up. This receives two because this guy used to sing for Iron Maiden and uses more hair spray than my Mom.

10) "N.I.B." as recorded by Ugly Kid Joe.

I once heard that a guy was cained in some country for openly admitting to being an Ugly Kid Joe fan. Despite being **pathetic** and **weak**, they did a great job of playing this song. They are granted four.

11) "War Pigs" as recorded by Faith No More.

I've already heard this song 100 times in Grant's jeep. I thought it was killer the first time I heard it and still do. They receive four and a half, they normally would have gotten just four but the singer forgot the words and just shook it off.

12) "Black Sabbath" as recorded by Type O Negative. Didn't this band use to play at satanic occult charity balls before they got signed? This is weird, Sabbath is pretty evil but I don't think they had this stuff in mind. Don't listen to this before you go to bed. They receive three. I would give them two but I'm scared they might cast a spell on one of my family members after they sacrifice me.

Wrestling Team Goes To Appalachian Camp

by Will McKeand

The MBA Wrestling team kicked off our training for the '94-'95 season this summer by going to the Appalachian State Wrestling Camp. It was a grueling week, full of tortuous drills led by extremely tough coaches. The team wrestled about twelve duel matches during the week, ending with an individual tournament. Our team showed a lot of promise for the upcoming season with four seniors there to lead them: Cory Morgan, Will McKeand, Andrew Douglas, and Bradley Coburn. Cory Morgan finished with a 14-2 record; Will McKeand, 15-2; and Andrew Douglas, 12-1. Alan Roe and Will McKeand placed 2nd, and Cory Morgan placed 3rd in the tournament.

The team ended the week in a rafting trip down the Hyawass River in fun Yaks. Not only did we test our wrestling skills, but we tested our bravery as well by jumping off a 30+ foot bridge into the depths below.

We are looking forward to a great upcoming season and we hope you will come and support us.

The Big Red Tees It Up at Tournament Time

by Ben Bodzy

The second half of the golf season yielded both excitement and disappointment. The bad news first: the golf team had a couple of disappointing losses. We lost to golf rivals Brentwood, Brentwood Academy, and district foe Ryan. With one week left in the season we had a very disappointing loss to Clarksville by one stroke. Things were not looking good. With one match left in the season, Coach Caldwell challenged us to do a little soul-searching. We were to play a pretty good Overton team and then it was on to the District, Region (both held at the McCabe Golf Links), and State tournaments. We beat Overton to build up confidence going into District. The team fired a 311 in District, losing to Ryan by only 4 strokes. Cooper Jones was fourth with a 73 and David

McDowell placed seventh with a respectable 78. Next it was on to the Region tournaments. We practiced every day between the two tournaments. The Big Red shot a 319 in Region, losing to Ryan by 3 strokes. Cooper and Elliot qualified individually for State. The State tournament was held at its perennial location of Henry Horton State Park. Due to an unfortunate accident the weekend before State Elliot broke his hand and was not able to compete. Cooper stuck it out alone and shot 79 and 83. Although we did not fulfil all our goals this season we are looking forward to a bright future next year. We will lose one out of 8 lettermen, while Ryan will lose 3 of their top 4 golfers. We're looking to win the Region and go to State next season.

MICHAEL Renee' LIFESTYLE PORTRATURE

SALUTES



Andy Corts

Andy is President of the Senior Class, a proud member of the football team and the Theatre Club, a Privilege List student, a gifted orator, and an actor.

Sports

Big Red Rolls over Henry County in Homecoming by Dave Sifford

After coming off of a huge victory, the Big Red went into Homecoming with a dazzling 5-1 record. As Coach Bowers said, the game would prove to be a "true fight." All week long, the team prepared for a physical game with the Patriots while at the same time tried to avoid all the hustle and bustle of Homecoming week.

The talented Big Red defense had to prepare for Jason Sparks, one of the mid-state's leading rushers, and the wing-T/run-and-shoot style offense which they brought from Paris, TN.



Owen Stadium, spirits were soaring and tensions were high. The Big Red received the ball first as Michael Frey started the opening drive with great field position. After hit-

Poe, with an extra point by J.T. Davenport. The Big Red enjoyed a 10-0 lead at half-time. In the second half the Patriots only shot the Big Red once with a touchdown pass.

From that point on, neither team could muster another point. On Henry Co.'s final drive, Buck Blair came down with a crucial interception, and the Big Red then ran out the clock in front of a wild, standing-room-only crowd. Big Red 10, Henry County 6. MBA then clinched its first playoff berth ever in the new class 5A system.

Next for MBA were the 7-0 Hunters Lane Warriors. A win for the Big Red would have put them in first place for the region.

Unfortunately, the Big Red faced a strong and athletic team. Hunters Lane

was led by the 6'4", 235 pound manchild, Reggie Grimes and a powerful Warrior attack. Despite their best efforts, MBA lost 42-13. The

game this week against Hillwood is a must-win for the Big Red to realize its playoff hopes.



ting Ted Morrissey on the opening play, the Big Red drove a little farther as J.T. Davenport closed the drive with a 27-yard field goal. Both defenses held strong until, on the third drive, Ted Morrissey caught a 27-yard reception from Monte

Onward to Victory by Mark Wyckoff and John Farringer

The 1994 MBA Cross Country Team has thus far enjoyed a very successful season. This senior-laden varsity squad consists of Mark Wyckoff, Scott Bowen, Jonathan "Ralph" Fly, Jim "Doughboy" Alley, John Farringer, Zeke Skipper, and Kenneth Pruitt. The season began positively with a sixth place finish in the Tennessee Classic against teams from Alabama, Kentucky, and all over Tennessee.

The next week, in the A.F. Bridges, the Big Red faced a much larger field of close to sixty teams and performed admirably with a sixth place finish. Every runner had his personal best for the year. MBA was the top Mid-State finisher and humiliated rivals Brentwood Academy and Father Ryan. This meet marked the first time in four years that MBA had defeated perennial power Oak Ridge. The following week, the team traveled north to eat greasy pizza, to play on the McDonald's playground, and to run in the Lexington Catholic Invitational. Everyone performed well as the team finished a

very strong second place, losing only to a powerhouse from Ohio.

The J.V. team had another outstanding performance with a third place finish. Kenneth Pruitt, moved down to bolster the J.V. squad, finished second, only one second off the leader. This performance came on the heels of a third place finish in Tennessee Classic and a second place finish in the A.F. Bridges. Runners like Colin Bonfiglio, Philip Guengrich, J.D. Daniel, Joey Martinez, David Berry, and Stephen Marler have combined to give MBA exceptional team depth.

In the following weeks, the Big Red won both the District and Metro Cham-



X-men Jim Alley and Kenneth Pruitt are running strongly for MBA

pionships. In District, the MBA runners narrowly edged Father Ryan by only seven points, but in Metro, they recorded the most impressive victory of the season. MBA's first five runners all finished in the top twelve and the margin of victory was an awe-inspiring sixty-one points. The J.V. runners also continued their dominance with team victories and individual victories by Colin Bonfiglio in both races.

With only a couple of serious injuries, to James Gunn and Chris Jones, the Big

Red is poised to win a fourteenth consecutive Region championship. Come out and support the Cross Country team in its quest for dominance and remember:

"Running is a real sport, everything else is just a game."

—some unknown genius. Oh yeah, the team has already been practicing for the Weenie Bowl. All that is needed is some attempt at a challenge from last years losers, the golf team.



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